



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEW YORK CITY MAN INDICTED FOR PASSPORT FRAUD

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that a federal grand jury has indicted 41 year-old Mama-Tidjani Mamadou of New York, New York on two counts for making false statements in attempting to obtain a U.S. Passport fraudulently.

The indictment alleges that Mama-Tidjani Mamadou, a citizen of Togo, Africa, attempted to obtain a United States passport by attaching a counterfeit State of New York birth certificate that falsely represented that he was born in New York City. Mamadou's passport application was received and reviewed by the National Passport Center in Portsmouth. Mamdou is charged with making a false statement to an agency of the federal government.

Mamadou was arraigned on these charges at the U.S. District Courthouse in Concord. A trial date is scheduled for April 5, 2005. Mamadou was released on personal bond previously set by a U.S. Magistrate Judge at his Initial Appearance in New York City, New York. If convicted, Mamadou faces a maximum prison term of five years and a maximum fine of \$250,000.00.

This case was investigated by the Diplomatic Security Service of the U.S. State Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark A. Irish.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all cases, each defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.